

Attorney Docket # 10961260-2

a single shallow region which extends to the surface of the substrate, the shallow region comprising:

- a protective outer wall adjacent to the substrate;
- an inner sealing wall located exclusively within the shallow region and adjacent to the protective outer wall; and
- the shallow region having a shallow region cross-sectional area, wherein the deep region cross-sectional area is greater than the shallow region cross-sectional area.

5. (Amended) A semiconductor isolation structure comprising:

- a substrate, the substrate comprising a surface;
- a first device and a second device formed within the substrate[, each device in contact with the substrate];
- an isolation region formed within the substrate between the first device and the second device, the isolation region comprising:

a single deep region which extends into the substrate, the deep region comprising an oxide, the deep region abutting only substrate and a single shallow region;

a single shallow region which extends to the surface of the substrate, the shallow region comprising:

- a protective outer wall adjacent to the substrate,
- an inner sealing wall located exclusively within the shallow region and adjacent to the protective outer wall.

A replacement copy of the claims is included following the Applicants' response.

EXAMINER'S REMARKS

Claims 1,2 and 4-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. patent No. 4,685,198 to Kawakita, et al (hereinafter Kawakita).